



**United States Department of Energy
Office of Transportation
Transportation Emergency Preparedness Program
(TEPP)**

2003 Annual Report



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Executive Summary

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2003, implementation of TEPP at the state and tribal jurisdictions continued. The TEPP Regional Coordinators provided technical assistance, conducted assessments, developed exercise planning activities, and coordinated training. There has been an increased effort to partner with state and tribal officials in conducting and planning training sessions that prepare responders for response to a transportation incident involving radioactive material. During FY 2003, 80 Modular Emergency Radiological Response Transportation Training (MERRTT) sessions training 2116 responders were sponsored by state, tribal, or local officials. Also, the State of Idaho has customized elements of TEPP to meet the needs of state and local responders. Additional details about state activities to implement TEPP and MERRTT program can be found in the Training Section of this report and in Attachment A.

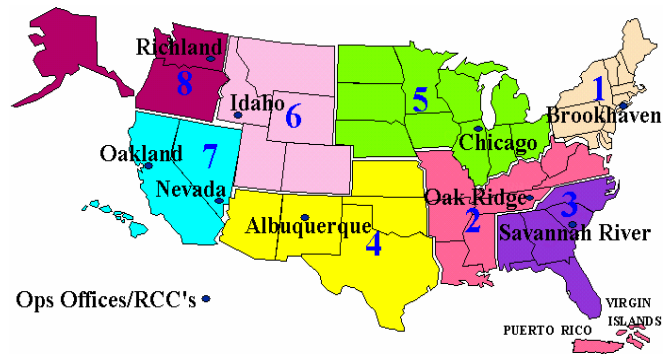
The DOE TEPP continued its effort of streamlining federal programs during the past year. TEPP worked with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to update existing training videos currently available from FEMA. Also as a partnering effort, the DOE teamed with the Norfolk Southern Railroad to participate in the 2003 Transportation Community Awareness Emergency Response (TRANSCAER) Whistle Stop Tour. The 2003 tour traveled to five cities in five days.

The Continuing Education Coordination Board for Emergency Medical Services (CECBEMS) granted approval for 12 total Continuing Education Hours (CEHs) for the MERRTT Program. CECBEMS assigned one half-hour (0.5) for each module and one hour (1) for the Practical Exercise.

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I. Purpose of the Transportation Emergency Preparedness Program

In recent years, the transport of all types of hazardous materials has received increased publicity. This is particularly true for radioactive material. As a high visibility shipper of radioactive material, the DOE and its transportation activities have come under intense scrutiny from Congress, States, Tribes, local governments, and the public. An underlying concern is the adequacy of emergency preparedness along DOE shipping corridors. Within the DOE Office of Environmental Management, the Office of Transportation implements the complex-wide Transportation Emergency Preparedness Program (TEPP) to address preparedness issues for non-classified/non-weapons radioactive material shipments. As an element of the DOE Comprehensive Emergency Management System, TEPP provides support to federal, state, tribal, and local authorities to prepare for a response to a transportation incident involving DOE shipments of radioactive material. TEPP is implemented on a regional basis, with a TEPP Coordinator designated for each of the eight DOE Regional Coordinating Offices. TEPP, by integrating transportation and emergency preparedness activities, takes a coordinated approach to addressing the emergency response concerns of State, Tribal, and local officials affected by DOE shipments. TEPP also ensures responders have access to the model plans and procedures, training, and technical assistance necessary to respond safely, efficiently, and effectively to transportation incidents.



II. Training



Training sessions involved hands-on exercises as well as classroom work.

During FY 2003, TEPP has continued to be very successful in working with the state and tribal points of contact to implement TEPP at the state, tribal, and local level. This increased partnering has increased the preparedness of responders for response to a transportation incident involving radioactive material. These accomplishments included a significant increase in the number of training programs coordinated with the state and tribal points of contact and the partnering on several other activities, including attendance at conferences and workshops. During the past year, DOE coordinated and sponsored 80 MERRTT

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sessions, training 2,116 responders with state, tribal, or local officials. Additional information about MERRTT training activities can be found in Attachment A.

The State of Idaho demonstrated the single most significant accomplishment in the area of training during the past year. Using state resources, the State of Idaho customized and incorporated the TEPP training program, MERRTT, into several of their state training programs. The State of Idaho utilized all the elements of TEPP to develop its customized program. The model procedures, exercise scenarios, and the MERRTT program were customized to create the program called Idaho Radiation Emergency Preparedness Program (IREPP). The State of Idaho has taken ownership of the program, and all activities associated with IREPP are supported by the State of Idaho. The States of Utah, Pennsylvania, Georgia, and South and North Carolina have, or are, each in the process of implementing MERRTT at the state level for training emergency responders. Several states have adopted MERRTT and are using MERRTT in various degrees as part of their emergency responder training programs.

The DOE TEPP continued its effort of working with other federal agencies during the past year to eliminate redundant training material. TEPP worked with FEMA to revise and replace the existing FEMA radioactive material emergency responder training video programs. The two agencies jointly produced the video and user guide titled, *“Pre-hospital Practices for Handling a Radiologically Contaminated Patient”* in January 2003. The production of this video and user guide was coordinated with the Transportation External Coordination Working Group - Training and Medical Issues Topic Group (for more information on TEC, go to: <http://www.ntp.doe.gov/tec/>). The topic group provided technical support in the development of the script content and review of the final video production. The video’s primary focus is on the treatment and transport of a radiologically contaminated patient from an accident scene to the hospital. This is the second video jointly produced by DOE and FEMA. The first video and User Guide was released in June of 2002. That video was titled *“Emergency Response to a Transportation Accident Involving Radioactive Material”*. Both videos are available at no charge from the FEMA distribution center (800-480-2520).



The TRANSCAER train visits a different location each day.

TEPP once again teamed with the Norfolk Southern Railroad to participate in the October 2003 TRANSCAER Whistle Stop Tours. TRANSCAER® is a voluntary national outreach effort that focuses on assisting communities in preparing for a possible hazardous material transportation incident. TRANSCAER® members consist of volunteer representatives from the chemical manufacturing, transportation, distributor, and emergency response industries, as well as the government. The

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2003 tour traveled to five cities in five days. The TRANSCAER Tour included six-hour stops in Jacksonville, Florida, Charleston, South Carolina, Forsyth, Augusta and Savannah, Georgia. At each city stop, representatives from TEPP staffed a display, provided a TEPP overview and delivered the MERRTT module, “*Radioactive Material Shipping Packages*.” During the tour, approximately 350 students participated in the classroom and display activities. The display area included handout materials, radiological survey instrumentation operation workshop activities, and information about Radiological Assistance Program (RAP) resources available from DOE.

In January 2003, CECBEMS, headquartered in Dallas, Texas, granted a total of 12 CEHs for the TEPP training program, MERRTT. CECBEMS assigned 0.5 hour for each module and 1 hour to the Practical Exercise. To support the implementation of CECBEMS, instructions on the procedure for completing the necessary paperwork and fee will be posted on the TEPP website (www.web.em.doe.gov/otem). CEHs can be awarded by attending a DOE sponsored MERRTT session, or one delivered by a DOE trained MERRTT instructor. TEPP will pay for the CECBEMS fees for students attending DOE sponsored MERRTT Train-the-Trainer sessions. A minimal fee is charged by CECBEMS for sessions not sponsored by DOE. For sessions conducted by trained MERRTT instructors, the instructor will be responsible for collecting the appropriate fee and submitting the completed paperwork as outlined in the MERRTT instructions. Region 3 will administer the CECBEMS CEHs for all TEPP regions.

Also during this year, the State of Texas Commission on Law Enforcement and the State of Kansas Emergency Medical Service Bureau approved MERRTT for continuing education units. TEPP Regional Coordinators continue to work with the states and tribes to integrate TEPP training into existing hazardous materials programs within the state.

III. Campaign Specific Training Activities



Radiation safety personnel conducting a required radiological inspection.

West Valley Spent Nuclear Fuel Shipment

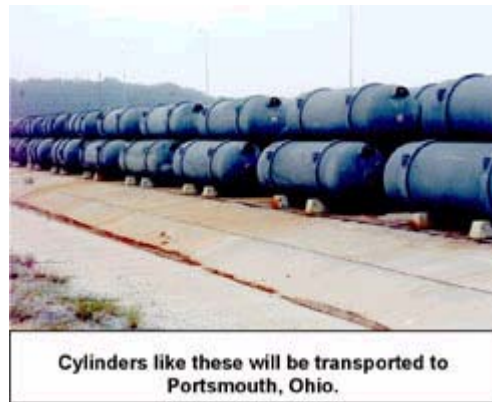
In July 2003, the DOE successfully completed the cross-country West Valley Spent Nuclear Fuel (SNF) shipment. The SNF was shipped by rail from the West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) in New York to the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL). TEPP assisted WVDP and INEEL project coordinators with shipping

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activities and was tasked to coordinate with the regional government groups (Western Governor's Association and the Northeast and Midwestern Council of State Government) for emergency preparedness planning and training along the transportation route. The TEPP Regional Coordinators, working with state and tribal points of contact and the regional government groups, identified the training needs of impacted states and tribes.

Uranium Hexafluoride (UF₆)

TEPP teamed with the Kentucky Division of Emergency Management in the delivery of training along potential transportation routes in support of the UF₆ program out of Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Approximately 1,700 cylinders will be transported via truck from Oak Ridge to the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant near Piketon, Ohio. Because UF₆ presents certain unique risks in transport in addition to its radiological risk, a specialized training program was deemed appropriate for potential first responders.



A condensed version of MERRTT was developed that focused on radiation, contamination, hazards communication, UF₆ response considerations, and response to radiological emergencies. Working with the Commonwealth of Kentucky, TEPP representatives developed an overview that focused on the unique risks associated with UF₆ because of its reactivity with moisture and the corrosive hazard of its by-products.

IV. Outreach and Conferences

In FY 2003, TEPP Coordinators worked with various state and federal agencies in their region to participate in state and national workshops and conferences. Activities at these conferences included overview presentations on TEPP and MERRTT training sessions. These conferences were for the various emergency response disciplines: fire service, emergency medical, law enforcement, and hazardous material. At each workshop and conference, responder feedback was excellent. Attendees expressed that the information about TEPP and the handout materials would be very useful in preparing their organizations for response to a transportation incident involving radioactive material. Typically, within 30 days of attending a workshop or conference, TEPP Coordinators report an increase in the requests for MERRTT Train-the-Trainer sessions from local and state officials. Attachment B provides an overview of some of the key workshops and conferences.

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V. Go Kits

A "Go-Kit" provides training aids to enhance MERRTT training and contains a radiation detection device, miscellaneous radiation sources (e.g., smoke detector), the inner container from a Type A packaging, radiation labels and placards, and a copy of the Emergency Response Guidebook. Training "Go-Kits" are made available to States and Tribes through the Regional TEPP Coordinators. Training Go-Kits were provided to Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Georgia, and North and South Carolina.



Instructor Go-Kit



Exercise Go-Kits

VI. TEPP Exercise and Tabletop Activities

Georgia WIPPTREX

On October 24, 2003, TEPP Region 3 participated in the State of Georgia, Columbia County (GA) Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Transportation Radiological Exercise (WIPPTREX). The WIPPTREX included player response from a DOE Regional RAP Team, the Savannah River Site (SRS) Emergency Duty Officer, and the SRS Weather Center. SRS also assisted with controller and evaluator positions during the exercise. As a follow up to exercise activities, TEPP representatives participated in the after-action



meetings. During these meetings, the exercise objectives and identified strengths and weakness were discussed. The Columbia County Emergency Management Agency published an exercise report during December.

New Mexico CHERCAP

TEPP Region 4 participated in the April 12, 2003, combined Laguna Pueblo-Cibola County CHERCAP Exercise. The Comprehensive HAZMAT Emergency Response-

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Capability Assessment Program (CHER-CAP) is offered by FEMA to assist local communities and Tribal Governments in obtaining a greater understanding of HAZMAT risks, identifying planning deficiencies, updating plans, training first responders, and stimulating and testing the system for strengths and needed improvements. Other DOE participants in the exercise included WIPP, which served as an evaluator. Other Federal agencies involved included the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and FEMA.

Kentucky UF₆ Tabletop



In preparation for the uranium hexafluoride shipments from Oak Ridge, Tennessee, the DOE, and the Commonwealth of Kentucky conducted a tabletop exercise as part of a MERRTT Train-the-Trainer session held in Georgetown, Kentucky, on March 18, 2003. Approximately 25 KY officials were in attendance at the tabletop exercise. The tabletop scenario consisted of a truck carrying UF₆ cylinders that overturned at an interstate off-ramp intersection. Participants discussed expected emergency responder actions. During the tabletop exercise the moderator stopped the discussions to present alternate scenarios for discussion and evaluation.

Arizona RAP/Phoenix Police Department Exercise

An exercise was conducted the week of July 28, 2003, as part of RAP training, at the Phoenix, AZ Police Academy. Approximately 100 students attended the exercise and training session. Handouts included MERRTT student CDs, TEPP fact sheets, and emergency response wheels. A similar training session was conducted in Southern Arizona east of Interstate 10 with 50 participants.



MERRTT Train-the-Trainer Practical Exercises

Practical exercises were conducted as part of MERRTT Train-the-Trainer sessions in Pasadena, California, Houston Texas, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Westchester, New York, Natick, Massachusetts, Thomson, Georgia, and Tuscaloosa, Alabama.



New Mexico WIPPTREX

During the planning for the New Mexico WIPPTREX, TEPP representatives identified the need for first responder training. Several MERRTT sessions were conducted prior to the June 2003 WIPPTREX exercise in Gallup, New Mexico. TEPP representatives participated in planning meetings,

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tabletop exercises, functional drills, and the exercise itself. Three practical exercises were conducted using MERRTT.

VII. 24 Hour POC Listing

As required by DOE Manual 460.2-1, *Radioactive Material Transportation Practices Manual*, TEPP representatives completed a national 24-hour state point of contact listing. The national 24-hour state contact listing will be posted on the TEPP website. The 24-hour state contact listing was compiled and verified by utilizing the following sources: Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD) directory, Council of State Governments' (Midwest) Planning Guide for Shipments of Radioactive Material, TEPP 24-hour point-of-contact listing, and internet-listed state emergency contact information.

VIII. Technical and Assist Visits

TEPP personnel worked with state emergency management officials in the States of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Ohio to help them develop ancillary modules to customize the MERRTT curriculum and make it more specific to certain commodities (both uranium hexafluoride and spent nuclear fuel). These customized MERRTT courses were then delivered along specific transportation corridors, sometimes in conjunction with an instructor provided by the state and sometimes with the TEPP instructor delivering the entire course. This was particularly effective along the transportation corridors planned for the uranium hexafluoride shipments where the cargo presents hazards that surpass the radiological component.

TEPP representatives were requested by Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to provide an assessment of training programs being conducted for the Homeland Defense Equipment Re-use program. The TEPP representatives evaluated the course material and attended a presentation of the material. TEPP then provided a critique to DHS on ways to increase the effectiveness of the training program.

TEPP representatives assisted the State of Connecticut in the development and revision of the state's Emergency Operation Plan Transportation Annex for radioactive material shipments.

IX. Partnerships with Other Agencies (Federal, State or Private)

During the past year, TEPP representatives assisted state officials in conducting Needs Assessments in several states. The Needs Assessment document/process was developed by TEPP as a tool to assist state, tribal and local officials in determining emergency responder readiness. Upon implementation of this document, the authority having jurisdiction is able to determine responder readiness for response to a transportation incident involving radioactive materials. As each state works through the assessment questions, the jurisdiction determines its strengths and identifies possible improvement

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areas. TEPP also provides tools (model procedures and exercise scenarios) that organizations can use to strengthen the identified improvement area. Needs Assessments conducted in the past year included: Pueblos of Laguna and Acoma, Arizona, Texas, and Georgia.

X. Program Development and Direction of Tribal Grant Guidance

As a means of assisting tribes in obtaining funding from appropriate sources to develop and sustain emergency preparedness/response and other programs, TEPP personnel developed a guidance document titled *"Developing Grant Proposals: A Guide for Tribal Emergency Preparedness Coordinators."* This document provides an exhaustive list of funding sources, along with detailed step-by-step guidance on the grant application process. TEPP met with FEMA and the DOE Tribal Liaison to initiate coordination between on Tribal emergency preparedness programs. One of the outcomes of that meeting was posting the Grant Guidance Document on the FEMA Tribal website (<http://www.fema.gov/tribal/>).

XI. 2004 TEPP Activities

The DOE TEPP Task Group has been assigned several responsibilities for 2004. These assignments include four major tasks as outlined below. The Task Group will meet quarterly to develop and implement solutions to the identified tasks.

The Transportation External Coordination Working Group (TECWG) Training and Medical Issues Topic Group is currently working on the MERRTT 2004 revision. Based on student and instructor feedback several improvements are being considered. The addition of two modules (Rail Shipments and Safeguarded Shipments) is planned for the 2004 release. Also, the two DOE and FEMA jointly produced videos will be added to the agenda. During the review of student and instructor feedback, the Task Group identified the need to eliminate the redundancy in several modules. The Task Group identified six modules that have similar objectives and information. The streamlining of these modules will save 1.5 hours in the delivery schedule. This saving of time allowed for the addition of the two new modules and the two videos into the delivery schedule. As with the design of past modules, the new modules will be approximately 30 minutes in length.

The DOE is currently developing a national MERRTT student database to document DOE and state delivery of MERRTT sessions. The national MERRTT database will be available to designated DOE and state and tribal officials to input MERRTT data during the second quarter of FY 2004. The database will be user friendly and will allow for the immediate printing of student certificates. Each DOE and state official will be provided a user ID and password that allows access to the national MERRTT database.

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TEPP has begun the process of coordinating training needs and programs with the Department of Homeland Security. Meetings will be established to identify the possibility of reducing federal training program redundancy and to streamline training programs. TEPP is assisting FEMA in the revision of their existing Hospital Training Program. This will assist the states in ensuring their hospitals have access to adequate training in the event of a radiological emergency.

TEPP is also working with FEMA to create a web-based MERRTT self-study refresher program. Plans are to post a select number of MERRTT Modules on the FEMA self study website. Students completing the posted MERRTT modules may satisfy state refresher training requirements. When posted on the website, the training will be designed the same as current FEMA Independent Study Programs. The student will print and review the materials and complete an online exam. FEMA will score the exam and issue a certificate to the student.

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Attachment A - National MERRTT Training Session Listing

Region	State	Month	# of Sessions	Attendees	Delivery
1	NY	November	2	25	TTT
1	PA	June	5 (8 hours)	79	Direct
2	KY	March	1	27	TTT
2	KY	April	11	434	Direct
2	KY	May	2	22	Direct
2	MO	June	4	118	Direct
2	MS	January	2	35	TTT
2	TN	March	1	20	Direct
2	WV	February	1	26	TTT
3	AL	December	2	67	Combined
3	FL	July	2	22	TTT
3	GA	December	2	39	Combined
3	GA	February	3	60	Direct
3	GA	May	1	8	TTT
3	GA	June	3	37	Direct
3	GA	July	1	18	TTT
3	SC	October	2	44	TTT
3	SC	June	1	16	TTT
3	SC	June	1	15	TTT
3	SC	July	1	24	TTT
4	KS	June	4 (4 hours)	70	Direct
4	KS	November	1	14	Direct
4	KS	January	1	31	TTT
4	KS	January	1	11	Direct
4	NM	October	1	23	Direct
4	NM	October	1	23	TTT
4	NM	October	1	300	Direct
4	NM	October	1	14	TTT
4	NM	October	1	22	TTT
4	NM	March	1	6	Direct
4	NM	May	1	51	Direct
4	TX	January	1	40	Direct
4	TX	April	1	70	Direct
4	TX	May	1	11	TTT
4	TX	June	1	30	Direct
4	TX	August	1	16	TTT
5	OH	April	1	23	TTT
5	OH	June	5	75	Direct
6	ID	March	3	16	Direct
6	UT	May	1	9	Combined
7	CA	February	1	13	Direct
7	NV	October	1	3	TTT
7	NV	July	1	9	Direct
TOTAL			80	2116	

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Attachment B - National Workshop and Conference Listing

1. Navajo Nation Emergency Management Conference, Farmington, New Mexico, October 23, 2002, approximately 200 Native Americans received the first four MERRTT modules (awareness training).
2. Annual Homeland Security: Combating Terrorism, Isleta Pueblo in Albuquerque, New Mexico, October 27-31, 2002. The conference helped participants gain an understanding of New Mexico's activities to build the public health infrastructure and emergency response capacity. The goal of these activities is to improve the response to terrorism and infectious disease outbreaks and enhance the interrelationships of the state's various emergency response agencies. TEPP representatives attended this conference, provided a presentation on TEPP, and provided handout information about TEPP.
3. EPA Region III Conference, Baltimore, Maryland, December 8-12, 2002, Radiological Assistance Program (RAP) and TEPP representatives attended this conference and conducted a 4-hour presentation/training TEPP session. Approximately 1300 responders attended the conference.
4. Fire Rescue East Conference, Jacksonville, Florida, January 30-February 2, 2003, RAP and TEPP representatives staffed a booth and provided handout information about TEPP and the DOE RAP Team capabilities and TEPP. Approximately 8000 emergency responders attended the conference.
5. Texas Emergency Management Workshop, Houston, Texas, February 22-26, 2003, TEPP presented a 2-day train-the-trainer session for the state of Texas radiological trainers and federal, state, and local responders in the Houston area.
6. EMS Today Conference and Exposition, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 18-22, 2003, TEPP representatives staffed a booth and promoted the CECBEMS accreditation. Attendees from all types of response services attended the conference. The estimated attendance was 2145 emergency medical service trainers and responders.
7. Emergency Management Issues Special Interest Group, Las Vegas, Nevada, May 5-8, 2003, TEPP representatives conducted a TEPP breakout session and staffed the TEPP display booth.
8. 2003 Fire Exposition, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, May 16-18, 2003, TEPP representatives partnered with the State of Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency and staffed a booth. Information about TEPP and state resources was presented to conference attendees. Representatives from all emergency response

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functions were in attendance. Approximately 23,000 responders from across the country attended this conference.

9. Fourth Annual Intermountain Hazardous Materials Conference, Ogden, Utah, May 20-22, 2003, TEPP representatives staffed the "Science Trek" Public Education Trailer and conducted a MERRTT Train-the-Trainer course. Approximately 250 emergency responders attended the conference.
10. International Hazardous Materials Conference, Baltimore, Maryland, May 29-30, 2003, TEPP representatives attended and staffed a booth. Approximately 2300 hazardous materials trainers and responders from emergency response functions were in attendance.
11. National Fire Chiefs Conference in Syracuse, New York, June 12-14, 2003, TEPP representatives attended and staffed a booth. Chief officers, trainers, and responders from all emergency response functions were in attendance. Approximately 10,000 responders from across the country attended this conference.
12. Firehouse Exposition in Baltimore, Maryland, July 23-27, 2003. Attendees from all response services were in attendance at the conference. Approximately 12,000 responders from all response functions attended the conference.
13. International Association of Fire Chiefs Conference, Dallas, Texas, August 22-25, 2003, TEPP representatives attended and conducted a TEPP overview and MERRTT session. Approximately 2300 fire chiefs and responders attended this conference.
14. New Mexico Emergency Management Conference, Belen, New Mexico, August 25-27, 2003, TEPP representatives attended and conducted a TEPP overview and MERRTT session. Approximately 400 emergency management officials and responders attended this conference.
15. Annual Virginia Hazardous Materials Conference, Virginia Beach, Virginia, September 23-26, 2003. Attendees from all types of response functions attended the conference. The estimated attendance was 800 hazardous materials team members, emergency management, emergency service trainers, and responders.